12. Mr. V. K. Kutty.	12. Mr. P. Neelakanta Menon.
13. Mr. K. S. Manickam.	13. Rama Varmha Tampuran.
14. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan.	14. Miss. G. M. D'Souza.
15. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.	15. Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.
16. Mr. P. Raman Menon.	16. Dr. E. S. R. Menon.
17. Mr. K. S. Panickar.	17. Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.
18. Mr. M. A. Sankunny.	18. Mr. Thomas Manjuran.
19. Miss. P. Meenakshikutty Amma.	19. Mr. C. S. Viswanatha Ayyar.
20. Mr. M. Sivarama Menon.	20. Mr. H. J. Walmesley.
21. Mr. A. V. Moothedan.	

Deputy President.—21 for and 20 against. The motion is therefore carried.

9. Adequate supply of water in all Schools and Colleges.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar.—"*This Council recommends to the Government to take immediate steps to provide in all Government and aided schools and colleges an adequate supply of water amounting to not less than two gallons of water per head per diem, one half of which being suitable for drinking purposes and the other half for washing purposes.*"

Mr. President, Sir, this resolution asks for a supply of water and who is there who is so hard-hearted as to refuse a supply of water? I am sure the resolution is of a most uncontentious nature but it is quite possible that the necessity for such a resolution may be doubted. I am therefore going to confine my speech to show that there is a real necessity for such a resolution. The Factory Act provides that all factory owners shall supply two gallons of water per head per diem in all factories, one half of which should be fit for drinking purposes and the other fit for washing purposes. I think this is a very wholesome and necessary provision, with regard to all such institutions where a number of persons congregate and have to remain for some time, be it a factory, a school or a college. Three instances I am going to place before this House to show that there is a real necessity for such a resolution, one of which, I am very sorry to say had a very tragic end. In the Punkunnam Primary School about 6 or 7 years ago, a boy of 7 or 8 years old at about 12 o'clock went to his house for drinking water simply because there was no provision in that school for drinking water and on his way to his

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house met with a fatal motor accident. I say the life of this poor boy could have been saved if there was provision for drinking water in that school at that time.

Another instance. About 3 or 4 years ago at the instance of the Director of Public Instruction I had to visit a number of Industrial schools in company with Rao Saib Mr. Kochugovinda Marar, Mr. Barton Wright and the Industrial Inspector. One of us—I don't exactly remember who it was—felt thirsty; it was about 3 o'clock and he asked for good drinking water in that school. I do not also remember whether it was an industrial school under Government management or an aided industrial school. Whatever it be, the answer came that there was no provision there for drinking water. Well, the school authorities had however the kindness to get for that gentleman water from a neighbouring house. We visited 5 schools on that particular day and as I was interested in every school I put the question whether there was water here suitable for drinking purposes. In 3 of the schools there was no provision; in two of the schools there was provision. I believe the next day I met the Director of Public Instruction and brought this matter to his notice. He certainly told me that it was a necessary provision and that he would see what could be done in the matter. After some time, I made enquiries in some schools and I was told that there was some provision for 'sambharam' and hot water, during the summer months. I do not know whether it was after I brought this matter to the notice of the Director of Public Instruction or whether the practice was current even before that. I am really thankful that at least something has been done for the summer months.

Well, another instance that I am going to say is this: on a certain day at about 1 o'clock I was going by the Vadakke Chira in Trichur, and I found 3 or 4 little children of ages varying from say about 9 to 12. I was acquainted with a few of them and I asked why they were standing there. They all belonged to the C. M. S. High School and they told me that they had come there for washing purposes. I asked them immediately, "Is there not water provided there for washing purposes?". They said, "There is a well, but there is no suitable vessel for lifting water". I thought these boys were running the danger of getting drowned especially when there were no elders present at the time. The next day I saw the C.M.S. High School Headmaster and then I narrated to him this incident. He immediately told me that he realised the necessity for pro-

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viding water for washing purposes and also for drinking purposes. I am glad to learn that the C. M. S. Headmaster has now made provision for water, for drinking and washing purposes.

Mr. President, I put it to the Education Member that the water in the Ollur High School is not suitable for drinking purposes. How I came to know of it is I had the privilege of presiding at an anniversary meeting of the Ollur High School about 2 or 3 years ago. I saw a filter placed there. I asked one of the teachers there as to whether every School was supplied with a water filter. He said "I do not know the case of the other schools. But here on medical inspection the water in the well was found to be not suitable for drinking purposes and therefore we have been asked to be in possession of a filter and at Government expense a filter was supplied to this High School." I immediately questioned him whether that filter will be able to supply sufficient quantity of drinking water for all the students of the school. Well, the capacity of that filter, I do not think, will exceed 4 or 5 gallons of water for all the 24 hours. He said "On medical inspection the water in the well was condemned and we had to provide a filter and the filter is here." He still held that the water in the well was unhealthy and that if anybody used that water for two days he would get stomachache. The Director of Public Health, I am sure, if only he has got a voice with regard to the schools and colleges also, would have been as enthusiastic as he now appears to be with regard to factories where he is over-enthusiastic, and he wants the water to be inspected by the Guindy Institute not once a year but twice a year, which costs two hundred rupees. Well, if he is so very enthusiastic with regard to the colleges and schools also, it would have been very good. I, therefore, think that the matter is not one to be so lightly treated. But at the same time, I do think that if this matter had come really to the notice of the Director of Public Instruction he would have considered it in all earnestness which it deserves, and that the Government would immediately be making provision in all the Government schools and also see that in all aided schools adequate provision for water is made. I say this because the moment the Headmaster of the C. M. S. High School came to know that there was not adequate provision of water for drinking as well as for washing purposes and since he was convinced that it was a very useful and necessary provision for students, he immediately made arrangements there. I request that adequate provision be made immediately in all schools whether

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aided or not aided. With these few words I recommend this resolution for the acceptance of this House.

Mr. P. J. Alexander.—I second the resolution.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—With your permission, Sir, I beg to move that 'two' may be omitted and 'one' may be inserted.

Amendment put and carried.

***Mr. I. N. Menon.**— Mr. President, it is not the business of the Government to question the necessity for good water and that is not the point to which I am going to draw the attention of this House. The resolution wants the Government to take immediate steps to provide in all Government and aided schools and colleges an adequate supply of water, etc. I would like to submit, Sir, that where the necessity has been brought to the notice of the Government we have been progressively realizing the needs and making provision for schools from year to year. This is done in a variety of ways. For one thing, a large majority of schools have got all the facilities which they require. I have instituted enquiries. In the second place, Medical Inspectors, when they go from place to place, also report if there is deficiency of water or if the quality of water is bad. Where it has not been found possible till now for whatever reason it may be to provide wells for schools, with the co-operation of the Panchayat Department it has been found possible to dig Panchayat wells near the schools. Where there is a protected water supply we have the co-operation of the Public Works Department. The pipes are extended and water is supplied by opening new taps. The Hon'ble Member referred to the case of the water supply in Ollur. Where we have the slightest suspicion that water-supply is not adequately protected, we have supplied filters. Now, we have supplied them with a filter not because there was any positive proof that the water was bad, but because the school compound was not very far away from the cemetery; and although we could not get medically confirmed that the water of the well will be polluted, it was thought that we might protect the health of the children by providing the filter. Where none of these things have been found possible we allow during hot months a supply of water by employing carriers to go to the nearest well to bring sufficient quantities of water and stock it there for school use.

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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Mr. President, the Hon'ble Members must realise that the only function of the Government is not to provide wells and water-supply to schools. We have got many other needs of schools. These have been gradually made from year to year, and I may assure the House that every effort has been made, is being made and will continue to be made to remedy these difficulties. It is not possible to provide all the schools immediately with the necessary facilities. I shall again stress that the number of schools which are deficient in this respect is not very great, thanks to the labours of the Government in the past. Every year we are taking up a few schools and remedying this deficiency. So that, even apart from any such reminder, all that is possible and all that is found desirable is being done and will continue to be done.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, I am not prepared to accept the contention of the Director of Public Instruction that water will be given when funds are forthcoming. You must make funds forthcoming. We cannot wait for so many years. Drinking purposes won't wait for months and years. The first item of expenditure of that department must be the supply of water. Little children during summer require water, and you cannot tell them to wait for some time.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—We have a special method by means of which we bring water and stock it there during hot months.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is there any school which is not supplied with drinking water for its children?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—As far as Government schools are concerned, we are surveying natural facilities and where it is not possible we are giving water allowance. With regard to aided schools I cannot say it is done.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I am not very particular about the quantity. What we insist upon is that water must be provided under any circumstances, whether you bring it, carry it or dig up a well. We want to impress upon the Government through the Director of Public Instruction that he must see that the aided schools are also compelled to keep a good stock of water. If you can give us an assurance that you will see that an adequate supply of water will be given to the children in all the schools irrespective of Government or private agency, we are quite satisfied. Your responsibility does not cease with Government schools.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is not want of any responsibility in regard to aided schools. There is a rule that one of the con-

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ditions precedent of granting license is the production of a sanitary certificate and I naturally thought that a provision of water supply is one of the conditions to be fulfilled for getting a sanitary certificate.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar.—I do not want to press this motion. The mere presence of a well will not do. I know there are wells but there are no proper vessels to lift water. What is the good of wells being there if there are no vessels to lift water. I know it as a matter of fact,—you can take it from me that in the C. M. S. School there was a well, but there was no vessel. When it was brought to the notice of the authorities they made the necessary arrangements. Again, the presence of a well is not a condition that satisfies the Factory Regulation. The Government is not satisfied if the factory owner says "Well, there is a well here in the factory premises". The provision is that the factory owner must provide an adequate supply of water and the quantity per head is given as two gallons, one half being suitable for drinking purposes and the other half for washing purposes. In the factory the workers are supposed to work for about 10 hours. In schools the children have to remain only for five hours. So when the Dr., the Member behind me, wanted to change the figure from two to one I immediately agreed to that. I do not think anybody has a right to tell the students "You ought not to be thirsty in other than summer months". So the provision of water during summer months alone won't do. There must be an adequate provision for supply of water suitable for drinking purposes all round the year and want of funds should not be form an excuse. I do not think there is any more important thing than providing this, i. e., drinking water. I have brought the matter to the notice of the House and it is for the Government to do the necessary in the matter. I have done my duty. I beg to withdraw the resolution.

Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

10. Revision of the pay of the clerks in the Registration Department

* **Mr. P. Govinda Menon.**— *"This Council recommends to the Government that the Government be pleased to revise and standardise the pay of the clerks and the head clerks in the*

* Speech not corrected by the Hon. Member.

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